

REMARKS

A. Claims 1-87 remain rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being anticipated by Lund (US Patent 6,658,100) in view of Morton (U.S. Patent 6,480,484). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, and asserts that Lund and Morton do not disclose all of the limitations of independent claims 1, 23, 45, 67, and 77. Claim 1 of the present application reads:

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1. A method for providing an improved interface to a caller during the initiation of a VoIP call comprising:

placing, by the caller, a request for information regarding a party to be called;

returning a URL responsive to said request; and

displaying to said caller one or more connection options corresponding to said URL.

For purposes of discussion, since the limitations of claim 1 are recited in the remaining independent claims 23, 45, 67 and 77, the following analysis is extended to arguments for those claims with respect to the 35 USC 103(a) rejection of those claims.

For the claimed limitation of placing, by the caller, a request for information regarding a party to be called, Examiner has cited Lund at col. 1, lines 52-54. However, Lund at col. 1, lines 52-54 only describes a caller supplying a phone number of the called party, which is not the same as a user supplying a request for information regarding the called party. Supplying information regarding the called party only upon request by the calling party has a distinct advantage of reducing network traffic in the form of undesired

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information regarding a called party, and thus the present invention provides a significant difference from Lund, which bombard the caller with information regardless of whether it was requested.

With respect to Examiner's argument that the cited portions of Lund expressly or inherently describe a caller placing a request for information regarding the party to be called, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has failed to rebut Applicant's argument that placing a call is not the same as requesting information about a called party. Specifically, Applicant submits that placing a call is the functionally the same as issuing a command, by providing a caller number to which the calling party wishes to be connected. A request for information about the calling party is simply a request OTHER than making a connection or placing a call to the called party. Applicant respectfully traverses Examiner's reasoning that a person placing a call would want to know as much about the called party as a person making a request for information about a called party. Applicant submits that the Examiner is improperly using hindsight of the Applicant's invention to arrive at the claimed invention, as Lund simply discloses placing a call rather than making a request, regardless of the outcome of the caller's action, and likens this placing of a call only because of Examiner's knowledge of Applicant's invention. There is nothing in Lund that shows the caller has any awareness before placing a call that caller's action results in returning information, and thus does not constitute a request for information.

With respect to the claimed limitation of returning a URL responsive to said request, Lund does not teach, suggest, nor otherwise disclose such functionality, since

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Lund does not teach the limitation of a caller supplying a request for information regarding the caller. Specifically, since Lund describes a URL being returned to a call placed by a calling party without a request for such information, this claim limitation is not disclosed, taught or otherwise suggested by Lund.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has addressed all grounds for rejection and objection as stated in the Office action mailed 5/08/06, and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and place this application in condition for allowance.

INVITATION TO TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

If any remaining issues exist, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,
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